

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed August 9, 2007.

Claims 1-8, 10-17, 39-41, 43-50, 52-55, 57-64, 66-94, 106-108, 110-117 and 119-129 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aldis et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0039916) in view of Ross et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,553,143).

Claims 9 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aldis et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0039916) in view of Ross et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,553,143) and further in view of Horstmann (U.S. Patent No. 6,009,401).

The claims have been amended to include more detail as supported by paragraphs [0056] and [0057] of the present inventions specification. Independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to include the feature that “the upgrading or downgrading of the software licenses includes displaying a page that shows current licenses to the user and receiving from the user an indication of what current licenses are selected to upgrade or downgrade, as well as an indication to upgrade or downgrade the selected licenses in the batch mode, the upgrading and downgrading involves providing new license keys for the upgrade/downgrade version, as well as disabling the license keys for the old versions”.

Claims 67 and 120 have been amended to include the feature that “the downgrading of the software license includes providing a page of current licenses to the user and receiving from the user an indication of what current license is selected for downgrading, as well as an indication to downgrade the selected license, the downgrading involves producing a new license key for the downgraded version, as well as disabling the license key for the old version”.

For these reasons, these claims are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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